



NEWS FROM
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SENATOR SCOTT OUTLINES DUI IMPOUND BILL
Repeat offenders may have cars impounded for up to 15 days

SACRAMENTO – Senator Jack Scott's (D-Pasadena) bill that would allow police to impound the vehicles of repeat DUI offenders, passed the Senate Public Safety Committee today on a bi-partisan vote of 4 to 0. SB 207 would allow police to impound vehicles for up to 15 days if the driver has a previous DUI offense and is arrested again for driving under the influence.

"I introduced this bill because DUI arrests and deaths appear to be on the rise again," stated Senator Scott. "Nationwide, 17-thousand people were killed in 2002 by drunk drivers and more than 250-thousand people were injured. In addition, a DMV report recommends that for repeat offenders, mandatory confiscation of the vehicle may be an effective punishment."

Here's how SB 207 would work: If a driver has been convicted of driving under the influence in the preceding seven years and if the driver has a **Blood Alcohol Content of 0.10%** or refuses to take a chemical test, police would impound the driver's car.

At that time, the police officer would either impound the vehicle for 5 or 15 days; 5 days if the driver had one earlier DUI conviction within the past ten years, and 15 if the driver had two or more DUI convictions within the past 10 years.

The vehicle may be released to another registered owner, if the other owner agrees to not allow the driver to use the vehicle until the end of the impoundment period.

Additionally, the driver would be subject to all administrative, towing, impounding and storage fees.